MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended September 30, 2019

AJK

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Year Ended September 30, 2019

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AJK

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CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Commissioners
Meriwether County
Greenville, Georgia 30222

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Meriwether County, Georgia, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of Meriwether County Department of Public Health, which represent 3.7 percent, negative 6 percent, and 37.2 percent, respectively, of the assets, net position, and revenues of the component units. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Meriwether County Department of Public Health, is based solely on the report of the other auditors. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, the aggregate remaining fund information and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund and Fire District O & M Fund, of Meriwether County, Georgia, as of September 30, 2019, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Meriwether County, Georgia basic financial statements. The combining, individual nonmajor fund financial statements, and other supplemental information are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining, individual nonmajor fund financial statements, and other supplemental information, are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America by us and other auditors. In our opinion, based on our audit, the procedures performed as described above, and the report of the other auditors, the combining, individual nonmajor fund financial statements, and other supplemental information, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 15, 2020 on our consideration of Meriwether County, Georgia's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Meriwether County, Georgia's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Meriwether County, Georgia's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Manchester, Georgia
April 15, 2020

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
September 30, 2019

	Primary Government	Component Units		
	Governmental Activities	Department of Public Health	Industrial Development Authority	Meriwether Water and Sewerage Authority
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 4,725,185	$ 554,812	$ 80,324	$ 133,739
Investments	767,454			173,443
Receivables (net of allowances for uncollectible)	2,371,446	30,453		6,809
Due from component unit	94,226			
Due from primary government			195,246	535,386
Inventory	86,585			
Prepaid items	277,525			5,981
Prepaid bond insurance, net of accumulated amortization	27,113			118,340
Capital assets (not being depreciated)	539,115		6,413,917	
Capital assets, being depreciated net of accumulated depreciation	12,454,216	42,833	1,633,153	6,879,848
Total assets	21,342,865	628,098	8,322,640	7,853,546
Deferred outflows of resources				
Deferred charge on refunding				726,921
Employer pension contributions		85,880		
Changes of assumptions - pension plan		27,187		
Difference between expected and actual experience - pension plan		17,948		
Employer OPEB contributions		63,778		
Changes of assumptions - OPEB		3,416		
Difference between expected and actual experience - OPEB		726		
Difference between projected and actual earnings - OPEB		7,393		
Change in proportion share of contributions - OPEB		978		
Total deferred outflows of resources	-	207,306	-	726,921

Continued...

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
September 30, 2019
(Continued)

	Primary Government	Component Units		
	Governmental Activities	Department of Public Health	Industrial Development Authority	Meriwether Water and Sewerage Authority
Liabilities				
Accounts payable	1,293,745	25,819	1,929	14,598
Accrued payroll	308,019		3,463	
Unearned revenue	490,195			
Due to component units	730,632			
Due to primary government				94,226
Accrued interest on bonds	81,029			90,450
Long-term debt:				
Due within one year	1,923,612			330,000
Due in more than one year	3,600,269		780,000	10,106,307
Other long-term obligations:				
Due within one year	170,836	19,395	9,569	
Due in more than one year	2,966,585	34,736		
Net pension liability		577,066		
Net OPEB liability		253,347		
Total liabilities	11,564,922	910,363	794,961	10,635,581
Deferred inflows of resources				
Proportionate share of deferred inflows of resources - pension plan		17,788		
Difference between projected and actual earnings - pension plan		13,298		
Changes of assumptions - OPEB		115,935		
Difference between expected and actual experience - OPEB		25,155		
Difference between projected and actual earnings - OPEB		10,992		
Change in proportionate share of contributions - OPEB		51,396		
Total deferred inflows of resources	-	234,564	-	-
Net Position				
Net investment in capital assets	10,075,997	42,833	7,267,070	(2,980,152)
Restricted:				
Capital projects	2,989,202			
Public safety	1,584,309			
Planning and development	2,065			
Judicial	11,015			
Prior year program income		443,053		
Other		23,674		
Unrestricted	(4,884,645)	(819,083)	260,609	925,038
Total net position	$ 9,777,943	$ (309,523)	$ 7,527,679	$ (2,055,114)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year Ended September 30, 2019

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues: Charges for Services, Fees Fines and Forfeitures	Program Revenues: Operating Grants and Contributions	Program Revenues: Capital Grants and Contributions	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes Net Position: Governmental Activities	Component Units: Department of Public Health	Component Units: Industrial Development Authority	Component Units: Meriwether Water and Sewerage Authority
Primary government:								
Governmental activities:								
General government	$ 3,990,277	$ 1,179,489			$ (2,810,788)			
Public safety	6,970,753	2,082,398	$ 510,269	$ 25,000	(4,353,086)			
Public works	4,347,650	5,552	1,576,837	60,751	(2,704,510)			
Planning and development	880,441		335,359		(545,082)			
Public welfare	535,673	118,539	72,617		(344,517)			
Culture and recreation	317,366	18,365		24,643	(274,358)			
Judicial	1,328,511				(1,328,511)			
Interest on long-term debt	256,329				(256,329)			
Total governmental activities and primary government	$ 18,627,000	$ 3,404,343	$ 2,495,082	$ 110,394	(12,617,181)			
Component units:								
Department of Public Health	$ 714,404	$ 497,916	$ 395,431			$ 178,943		
Industrial Development Authority	363,117		509,492				$ 146,375	
Meriwether Water and Sewerage Authority	793,499	128,265	870,142					$ 204,908
Total component units	$ 1,871,020	$ 626,181	$ 1,775,065	$ -		178,943	146,375	204,908
General revenues:								
Taxes:								
Property					8,609,458			
Sales					3,070,744			
Insurance premiums					931,775			
Motor vehicle and mobile home					1,175,757			
Alcoholic beverage					16,213			
Other					260,665			
Gain (loss) on sale of capital assets							(49,690)	
Interest revenue					13,540	1,305	1,182	2,172
Total general revenues					14,078,152	1,305	(48,508)	2,172
Change in net position					1,460,971	180,248	97,867	207,080
Net position at beginning of year					8,316,972	(489,771)	7,429,812	(2,262,194)
Net position at end of year					$ 9,777,943	$ (309,523)	$ 7,527,679	$ (2,055,114)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
September 30, 2019

	Major Governmental Fund Types				Nonmajor Governmental Fund Types	
		Capital Project Funds		Special Revenue Fund		
	General	SPLOST	Fire District Bond	Fire District O & M	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 812,751	$ 1,278,199	$ 584,179	$ 1,839,056	$ 211,000	$ 4,725,185
Investments					767,454	767,454
Receivables (net of allowance for uncollectibles)	1,679,754	330,727		295,770	65,195	2,371,446
Due from other funds	762,291		1,530		1,841	765,662
Due from component units	94,226					94,226
Inventory, at cost	86,585					86,585
Prepaid items	277,525					277,525
Prepaid bond insurance, net of accumulated amortization			27,113			27,113
Total assets	$ 3,713,132	$ 1,608,926	$ 612,822	$ 2,134,826	$ 1,045,490	$ 9,115,196
Liabilities						
Accounts payable	$ 1,284,401			$ 8,204	$ 1,140	$ 1,293,745
Accrued payroll	267,552			40,467		308,019
Unearned revenue	245,877					245,877
Due to other funds				759,308	6,354	765,662
Due to component units	730,632					730,632
Total liabilities	2,528,462	$ -	$ -	807,979	7,494	3,343,935
Fund Balances						
Nonspendable for:						
Inventory	86,585					86,585
Prepaids	277,525					277,525
Restricted for:						
Public safety				1,326,847	257,462	1,584,309
Judicial					11,015	11,015
Planning and development					2,065	2,065
Capital projects		1,608,926	612,822		767,454	2,989,202
Unassigned	820,560					820,560
Total fund balances	1,184,670	1,608,926	612,822	1,326,847	1,037,996	5,771,261
Total liabilities and fund	$ 3,713,132	$ 1,608,926	$ 612,822	$ 2,134,826	$ 1,045,490	$ 9,115,196

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
RECONCILIATION OF FUND BALANCES ON THE BALANCE SHEET FOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES ON THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
September 30, 2019

Fund balances -Total governmental funds		$ 5,771,261
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources, and therefore, are not reported in the funds:		
Add, capital assets		31,259,182
Deduct, accumulated depreciation		(18,265,851)
Long-term debt and other long-term liabilities applicable to the County's governmental activities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. Interest on long-term debt is not accrued in governmental funds, but rather is recognized as an expenditure when due. All liabilities, both current and long-term, are reported in the statement of net position. Balances at September 30, 2019 are:		
Accrued interest payable		(81,029)
General obligation bonds	$ (4,730,000)	
Issuance premium	(184,169)	
Capital leases	(609,712)	
Compensated absences	(284,726)	
Intergovernmental agreement	(780,000)	
Landfill post-closure costs	(2,072,695)	
Unearned franchise fees	(244,318)	
Total long-term liabilities		(8,905,620)
Net position of governmental activities		$ 9,777,943

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
Year Ended September 30, 2019

	Major Governmental Fund Types				Nonmajor Governmental Fund Types	
		Capital Project Funds		Special Revenue Fund		
	General	SPLOST	Fire District Bond	Fire District O&M	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:						
Taxes:						
Property	$ 7,088,511			$ 1,520,947		$ 8,609,458
Sales	1,152,050	$1,918,694				3,070,744
Insurance premium	931,775					931,775
Motor vehicle/mobile home	1,175,757					1,175,757
Alcoholic beverage	16,213					16,213
Other	250,330				$ 4,653	254,983
Licenses and permits	158,672					158,672
Charges for services	1,915,012				393,060	2,308,072
Fines, forfeitures and court fees	605,459				141,744	747,203
Rents and royalties	133,313					133,313
Grants and subsidies	2,202,106			317,619		2,519,725
Investment earnings	8,066	41,128	$ 1,991	3,269	19,837	74,291
Other revenue	299,429				7,654	307,083
Total revenues	15,936,693	1,959,822	1,991	1,841,835	566,948	20,307,289
Expenditures:						
Current:						
General government	3,721,678					3,721,678
Public safety	4,413,300			1,008,029	986,111	6,407,440
Public works	3,298,271					3,298,271
Planning and development	689,416				4,500	693,916
Public welfare	419,102					419,102
Culture and recreation	306,017					306,017
Judicial	1,315,594				3,019	1,318,613
Capital outlay	375,631	859,657	1,008,921		254,551	2,498,760
Debt service:						
Principal payments	301,209	1,565,000		185,000		2,051,209
Interest payments	72,654	79,125		59,875		211,654
Total expenditures	14,912,872	2,503,782	1,008,921	1,252,904	1,248,181	20,926,660
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	1,023,821	(543,960)	(1,006,930)	588,931	(681,233)	(619,371)
Other financing sources (uses):						
Transfers in				4,220	438,317	442,537
Transfers out	(442,537)					(442,537)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(442,537)	-	-	4,220	438,317	-
Net change in fund balances	581,284	(543,960)	(1,006,930)	593,151	(242,916)	(619,371)
Fund balances, beginning of year	603,386	2,152,886	1,619,752	733,696	1,280,912	6,390,632
Fund balances, end of year	$ 1,184,670	$1,608,926	$ 612,822	$ 1,326,847	$ 1,037,996	$ 5,771,261

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year Ended September 30, 2019

Net change in fund balances - Total governmental funds		$ (619,371)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Governmental funds report capital outlays. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlay ($1,367,416) exceeded depreciation ($1,076,526) in the current period.		290,890
The net effect of various miscellaneous transactions involving capital assets (i.e. sales, trade-ins, and donations) is to increase net position.		25,000
Contractually required revenues are reported as revenue in the governmental funds; however, the statement of activities reports the amounts as revenue recognized over the term of the contract.		(244,318)
The issuance of long-term debt (e.g., bonds, leases) provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net position. Also, governmental funds report the effect of premiums, discounts, and similar items when debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are deferred and amortized in the statement of activities. This adjustment consists of the following changes:		
General obligation bonds	$ 1,750,000	
Issuance premium	14,734	
Capital leases	126,209	1,890,943
Under the modified accrual basis of accounting used in the governmental funds, expenditures are not recognized for transactions that are not normally paid with expendable available financial resources. In the statement of activities however, which is presented on the accrual basis, expenses and liabilities are reported regardless of when financial resources are available. In addition, interest on long-term debt is not recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting until due, rather than as it accrues. This adjustment consists of the change of three balances:		
Accrued interest on bonds	$ (44,675)	
Compensated absences	(12,498)	
Intergovernmental agreement	175,000	117,827
Change in net position of governmental activities		$ 1,460,971

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
GENERAL FUND
Year Ended September 30, 2019

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual Amount	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues				
Taxes:				
Property	$ 7,380,000	$ 7,380,000	$ 7,088,511	$ (291,489)
Sales	1,050,000	1,142,317	1,152,050	9,733
Insurance premium	864,140	931,775	931,775	-
Motor vehicle and mobile home	1,056,000	1,149,114	1,175,757	26,643
Alcoholic beverage	22,500	22,500	16,213	(6,287)
Other	250,000	271,507	250,330	(21,177)
Licenses and permits	124,500	124,500	158,672	34,172
Charges for services	1,448,000	2,050,520	1,915,012	(135,508)
Fines, forfeitures and court fees	597,500	597,500	605,459	7,959
Rents and royalties	75,000	75,000	133,313	58,313
Grants and subsidies	931,520	2,302,354	2,202,106	(100,248)
Investment earnings	4,000	4,000	8,066	4,066
Other revenue	46,000	301,446	299,429	(2,017)
Total revenues	13,849,160	16,352,533	15,936,693	(415,840)
Expenditures				
Current:				
General government:				
General government	1,559,925	2,101,505	1,764,709	336,796
County commissioners	431,139	438,922	403,853	35,069
Tax commissioners	375,577	381,909	380,892	1,017
Tax assessors	336,107	370,457	370,457	-
Voter registration/election	140,655	142,194	105,498	36,696
Building department	188,688	203,693	203,693	-
Buildings and grounds	94,000	79,500	67,565	11,935
Finance	229,430	245,556	245,556	-
Information technology	227,889	229,145	179,455	49,690
Total general government	3,583,410	4,192,881	3,721,678	471,203
Public safety:				
Public safety	1,080,412	1,213,462	1,172,663	40,799
EMS	228,150	277,591	277,591	-
Sheriff's department	2,564,464	2,564,464	2,526,818	37,646
Jail	37,300	37,300	24,251	13,049
Coroner	51,300	51,448	47,787	3,661
Inmate care	347,300	363,498	363,498	-
EMA	6,150	14,661	692	13,969
Total public safety	4,315,076	4,522,424	4,413,300	109,124
Public works:				
Public works department	2,312,924	3,304,182	3,298,271	5,911
Total public works	2,312,924	3,304,182	3,298,271	5,911

(Continued...)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
GENERAL FUND
Year Ended September 30, 2019
(Continued)

Expenditures	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual Amount	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Planning and development:				
Welcome center and tourism	23,000	23,000	23,000	-
County agents	55,674	56,040	25,724	30,316
Industrial Development Authority	294,000	294,000	294,000	-
Airport		346,692	346,692	-
Total planning and development	372,674	719,732	689,416	30,316
Public welfare:				
Animal control	187,924	213,167	202,165	11,002
Health and welfare	172,500	173,250	173,250	-
Senior citizens program	19,500	19,500	19,500	-
Forestry	24,372	24,372	24,187	185
Total public welfare	404,296	430,289	419,102	11,187
Culture and recreation:				
Recreation	236,933	236,933	203,017	33,916
Library	103,000	103,000	103,000	-
Total culture and recreation	339,933	339,933	306,017	33,916
Judicial:				
Probate Court	213,433	217,791	204,620	13,171
Clerk of Court	396,784	405,536	405,536	-
Juvenile Court	98,048	99,742	89,545	10,197
Magistrate Court	141,693	144,576	143,651	925
District Attorney	198,273	198,273	198,276	(3)
Court services	106,536	113,087	113,087	-
Public defender	164,412	164,412	158,691	5,721
Board of equalization	6,450	6,450	2,188	4,262
Total judicial	1,325,629	1,349,867	1,315,594	34,273
Capital outlay	200,000	480,000	375,631	104,369
Debt Service:				
Debt service - Principal	301,209	301,209	301,209	-
Debt service - Interest	70,876	72,654	72,654	-
Total debt service	372,085	373,863	373,863	-
Total expenditures	13,226,027	15,713,171	14,912,872	800,299
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	623,133	639,362	1,023,821	384,459
Other financing sources (uses):				
Transfers out	(623,133)	(639,362)	(442,537)	196,825
Total other financing sources (uses)	(623,133)	(639,362)	(442,537)	196,825
Net change in fund balances	-	-	581,284	581,284
Fund balance at beginning of year	603,386	603,386	603,386	-
Fund balance at end of year	$ 603,386	$ 603,386	$ 1,184,670	$ 581,284

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FIRE DISTRICT O & M FUND
Year Ended September 30, 2019

	Original and Final Budget	Actual Amount	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues:			
Taxes:			
Property taxes	$ 1,394,586	$ 1,520,947	$ 126,361
Grants and subsidies		317,619	317,619
Investment earnings		3,269	3,269
Total revenues	1,394,586	1,841,835	447,249
Expenditures:			
Current:			
Fire	1,080,886	1,008,029	72,857
Capital outlay	7,700		7,700
Debt service:			
Principal	185,000	185,000	-
Interest	121,000	59,875	61,125
Total expenditures	1,394,586	1,252,904	141,682
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	-	588,931	588,931
Other financing sources (uses):			
Transfers in		4,220	4,220
Net change in fund balances	-	593,151	593,151
Fund balance at beginning of year	733,696	733,696	-
Fund balance at end of year	$ 733,696	$ 1,326,847	$ 593,151

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
September 30, 2019

	Agency Funds
Assets	
Cash	$ 661,411
Taxes receivable	27,948
Total assets	$ 689,359
Liabilities	
Due to others	$ 689,359
Total liabilities	$ 689,359

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Meriwether County, Georgia (the County) complies with *Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* (GAAP). The County's reporting entity applies all relevant *Governmental Accounting Standards Board* (GASB) pronouncements.

Meriwether County, Georgia operates under a Board of Commissioners and provides the following services:

Public Safety
Roads
Public improvements
Planning and Zoning
Courts
Tax Assessment and Collection
Health and Social Services
Culture-Recreation
General Administrative Services

The following is a summary of the County's more significant accounting policies used in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements.

A. The Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements present the County's primary government and component units over which the County exercises significant influence. Significant influence or accountability is based primarily on operational or financial relationships with the County (as distinct from legal relationships).

➢ **Discretely Presented Component Units** - Meriwether County Department of Public Health and Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority issue separately audited financial statements. Copies of these financial statements may be obtained from the County Commissioners' office. The Meriwether County Water and Sewerage Authority does not issue separate financial statements. The County has omitted all of the disclosures related to the Meriwether County Department of Public Health except those considered to be significant to the County's financial statements.

Component units reported in the County's financial statements are listed below:

Discretely Presented Component Units	Brief Description of Activities and Relationship to the County
Meriwether County Department of Public Health	The Department of Public Health provides medical services and health education to the citizens of Meriwether County. The County Board of Commissioners has the authority to modify and approve the Department of Public Health budget and have committed to provide significant financial support. It is reported as a governmental fund with a June 30 year end.
Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority	The Industrial Development Authority seeks new industry and promotes existing industry in Meriwether County. The Authority is fiscally dependent upon the County. It is reported as a governmental fund with a September 30 year end.
Meriwether County Water and Sewerage Authority	The Water and Sewerage Authority was formed to provide water and sewerage services to the citizens of Meriwether County. It is currently providing services to the businesses in the Meriwether Industrial Park. The Authority is fiscally dependent upon the County. It is reported as an enterprise fund with a September 30 year end.

Based on the GASB criteria, the following related organizations are not under the oversight responsibilities of the Board of Commissioners and their operations are not included in the financial statements.

Meriwether County Board of Education
Meriwether County Department of Family and Children Services
Meriwether County Public Library
Meriwether County Senior Center

Disbursements to these units based on contractual agreements have been budgeted and expended as a part of the regular operations of the County.

B. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government and its component units. The effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. *Governmental activities* are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues. Likewise, the *primary government* is reported separately from certain legally separate *component units* for which the primary government is financially accountable.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segments are offset by program revenues. *Direct expenses* are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. *Program revenues* includes 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as *general revenues*.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column on the governmental fund financial statements.

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources measurement focus* and the *modified accrual basis of accounting.* Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues, including property taxes, are considered to be *available* when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period.

For this purpose, the County considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

Property taxes, grants from other governments, charges for services and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the County.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund - The General Fund is the general operating fund of the County. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

SPLOST Fund - The SPLOST Fund is a capital projects fund established to account for major capital expenditures financed by special purpose local option sales tax receipts.

Fire District Bond Fund – The Fire District Bond Fund is used to account for major capital expenditures for the fire district financed by bond proceeds.

Fire District O & M Fund – The Fire District O & M Fund is used to account for expenditures and revenues of the fire district activity.

The County also reports the following fiduciary fund type:

Agency Funds - Agency Funds are used to account for assets held by the County in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments and/or other funds. Agency Funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations. Current Agency Funds held by the County are as follows:

Tax Commissioner
Sheriff
Magistrate Court
Probate Court
Superior Court

Amounts reported as *program revenues* include 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided, 2) operating grants and contributions, and 3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as *general revenues* rather than as *program revenues*. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes.

The County's net position are reported in three parts - 1) net investment in capital assets 2) restricted net position; and 3) unrestricted net position. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the County's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

D. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The County prepares and adopts its general fund budget and special revenue funds budgets which complies with the auditing requirements for local governments so as to provide local taxpayers with an opportunity to gain information concerning the purposes for which local revenues are proposed to be spent and are actually spent and to assist local governments in generally improving local financial management practices while maintaining, preserving, and encouraging the principle of home rule over local matters. The procedures are as follows:

1. The Budget officer submits, to the Board of Commissioners, a proposed operating budget for the following fiscal year. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.
3. The budget is legally enacted through passage of an ordinance. All appropriations lapse at year end. The legal level of control (level at which expenditures may not legally exceed the budget) is exercised by the Board of Commissioners on a departmental basis.
4. The budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).
5. The budget amounts shown in the financial statements are the final authorized amounts as revised during the year by approval of the Board of Commissioners.

The Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Multipurpose Fund (SPLOST), and the Fire District Bond Fund are capital project funds and have not included Budget and Actual Statements since their budgets are on a project-length basis instead of an annual basis.

Encumbrance accounting is not used by Meriwether County, Georgia.

E. Deposits and Investments

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits as well as short-term investments with a maturity date within three months of the date acquired by the County, and nonnegotiable certificates of deposits regardless of date of maturity.

Statutes authorize the County to invest in obligations of the United States and of its agencies and certificates of deposit of banks insured by the FDIC provided, however, that the portion of such certificates of deposit in excess of the amount insured by the FDIC is adequately collateralized. Investments are stated at fair value based upon quoted market prices.

F. Receivables and Payables

Transactions between funds that are representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year are referred to as either "interfund receivable/payables" (i.e., the current portion of interfund loans). All other outstanding balances between funds are reported as "due to/from other funds."

All trade and property tax receivables are shown net of an allowance for uncollectibles. The allowances for uncollectibles on receivable balances represent estimates based on historical collection rates and account balance aging reports.

The County's property tax is levied on approximately October 15 on the assessed values for all real and personal property, including mobile homes and motor vehicles located in the County. The billings are considered due December 20. At December 21, the bill becomes delinquent, the applicable property is subject to lien, and penalties and interest may be assessed by the County.

G. Inventory

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out) or market and consists of expendable supplies. The County uses the "consumption" method to record inventory.

H. Prepaid Items

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both the government-wide and fund financial statements.

I. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (i.e., roads, bridges, sidewalks, and similar items), are reported in the applicable governmental activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than $1,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value at the time of acquisition plus any ancillary charges incurred to put the asset into service.

The County is classified as a phase 3 government due to its revenue and classification by GASB 34. The County has opted not to retroactively report infrastructure but will report all infrastructure additions and related improvements after October 1, 2003.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets is included as part of the capitalized value of the assets constructed.

Property, plant, and equipment of the primary government, as well as the component units are depreciated using the straight line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Assets	Years
Buildings and building improvements	20-40
Public domain infrastructure	40
System infrastructure	40
Vehicles	3-5
Equipment	5-15

J. Deferred outflows/inflows of resources

In addition to assets, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred outflows of resources*, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will *not* be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. Currently, the County has no items that qualify for reporting as a deferred outflow of resources. The Meriwether County Department of Public Health has seven items which reflect pension and OPEB related items. The Meriwether Water and Sewerage Authority has one item which reflects deferred charge on refunding which is the difference in the carrying value of refunded debt and its reacquisition price.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred inflows of resources*, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will *not* be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. Currently, the County has no items that qualify for reporting as a deferred inflow of resources. The Meriwether County Department of Public Health has eight items which reflects pension and OPEB related items.

K. Compensated Absences

Employees can accrue a maximum of 240 hours of vacation pay, depending upon the length of service, which can be taken either through time off or by payment upon termination. Sick leave benefits do not vest; therefore, unused sick leave is not recorded in the financial statements.

The County accrues a liability for compensated absences which meet the following criteria:

1. The County's obligation relating to employees' rights to receive compensation.
2. The obligation relates to rights that vest or accumulate.
3. Payment of the compensation is probable.
4. The amount can be reasonably estimated.

L. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements and proprietary fund types, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities column of the statement of net position. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount. Bond issuance costs are expensed when incurred.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

M. Fund Equity

Beginning with the year ended September 30, 2011 the County implemented GASB *Statement 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions.* This Statement provides more clearly defined fund balance categories to make the nature and extent of the constraints placed on government's fund balance more transparent. The following classifications describe the relative strength to the spending constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

- **Nonspendable Fund Balance** – Amounts that are not in a spendable form (such as inventory or prepaid items) or are required to be maintained intact;

- **Restricted Fund Balance** – Amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors, bondholders and higher levels of government), through constitutional provisions, or by enabling legislation;

- **Committed Fund Balance** – Amounts constrained to specific purposes by a government itself, using its highest level of decision-making authority. To be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government takes the same highest level action to remove or change the constraint;

- **Assigned Fund Balance** – Amounts a government intends to use for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority;

- **Unassigned Fund Balance** – Amounts that are available for any purpose; positive amounts are reported only in the general fund.

The Board of Commissioners establishes (and modifies or rescinds) fund balance commitments by passage of an ordinance or resolution. This is typically done through adoption and amendment of the budget. A fund balance commitment is further indicated in the budget document as a designation or commitment of the fund (such as for special incentives). Assigned fund balance is established by the Board of Commissioners through adoption or amendment of the budget as intended for specific purpose (such as purchase of capital assets, construction, debt service or for other purposes). It is the County's policy to use restricted fund balance first, followed by committed, assigned, and then unassigned amounts, respectively.

N. Reclassifications

Certain amounts presented in the prior year data have been reclassified in order to be consistent with the current year's presentation.

O. Use of Estimates to Prepare Financial Statements

Management uses estimates and assumptions in preparing financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, and the reported revenues and expenses. Actual results could vary from the estimates that were assumed in preparing the financial statements.

P. Subsequent Events

Subsequent events have been evaluated by management through April 15, 2020 which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Q. Recently Issued Accounting Principles

The "Governmental Accounting Standards Board" (GASB) has approved the following GASB Statement that has been adopted by the County for the year ended September 30, 2019.

GASB Statement No. 88 "Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements" primarily changes the way governments disclose information regarding debt. The objective of this Statement is to improve debt disclosures by requiring certain additional essential information to be presented in the notes. Additionally, this Statement requires existing and additional information be provided for direct borrowings and direct placements of debt separately from other debt. The effective date of this GASB was as of the beginning of the fiscal year (October 1, 2018). According to the GASB, the requirements of this Statement should improve financial reporting by providing financial statement users with better information to understand effects of debt on the government's future resource flows as well as other essential information that currently is not consistently provided. This Statement has no effect on the net position of the financial statements.

2. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Primary Government

At year end, the County had $1,000 in petty cash, $1,278,199 in short-term investments (cash equivalents), and the carrying amount of deposits (checking, savings and certificates of deposit) was $4,107,397. The short-term investments were invested 100% in a U.S. Treasury portfolio that had a bank balance of $1,278,199. For the County's deposits the bank balance was $4,372,362 of which $1,684,162 was covered by FDIC insurance and $1,596,684 was covered by collateral held in the pledging bank's trust department or by its agent in the County's name, and $1,091,516 is covered by a multiple financial institution collateral pool. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the government's deposits in the excess of FDIC insurance may not be returned to it. The County does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk.

As of September 30, 2019, the County had the following investments. All investments are in an external investment pool - Pooled Investments, regulated by the Office of the State Treasurer. The fair value of the position in the pool reported below is the same as the value of the pool shares at September 30, 2019.

Investments	Fair Value
Georgia Fund 1	$ 767,454

Interest Rate Risk - The County does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates. Weighted average maturity (WAM) is the method used for reporting purposes for Georgia Fund 1. At September 30, 2019, the plan had 26 days WAM.

Credit Risk - State law limits investments in commercial paper, corporate bonds, and mutual bond funds to the top two ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The County has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices. As of September 30, 2019, the County's investment in the state investment pool was rated AAA by *Standard & Poor's*.

Discretely Presented Component Units

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the component unit's deposits may not be returned to it. None of the component units have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. The exposure to custodial credit risk for each component unit is listed below.

Meriwether County Department of Public Health - The Department's deposits at June 30, 2019 were entirely covered by federal depository insurance and collateral held by the Health Department's custodial bank in the Health Department's name.

Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority - The Authority has $80,324 as the carrying amount of deposits and the bank balance was $80,754 as of September 30, 2019. The entire bank balance was FDIC insured.

Meriwether County Water and Sewerage Authority - The Authority has $133,739 as the carrying amount of deposits and the bank balance was $136,128 as of September 30, 2019. The entire bank balance was FDIC insured.

3. RECEIVABLES

Primary Government

Amounts are aggregated into a single accounts receivable (net of allowance for uncollectibles) line for certain funds and aggregated columns. Below is the detail of receivables for the general, SPLOST funds, Fire District O & M fund, and the nonmajor governmental funds in the aggregate, including the applicable allowances for uncollectible accounts:

	General	SPLOST	Fire District O & M	Nonmajor Governmental	Total
Accounts	$ 672,705				$ 672,705
Sales taxes	198,859	$ 330,727			529,586
Property taxes	374,029				374,029
Grants and subsidies	568,062		$ 295,770		863,832
Tipping fees	720,251				720,251
Other				$ 65,195	65,195
	2,533,906	330,727	295,770	65,195	3,225,598
Less: allowance for uncollectibles	(854,152)	-	-	-	(854,152)
Net receivable	$ 1,679,754	$ 330,727	$ 295,770	$ 65,195	$ 2,371,446

Discretely Presented Component Units

Meriwether Water and Sewerage Authority – The balance of accounts receivable for water and sewerage billings at September 30, 2019 was $6,809.

4. CAPITAL ASSETS

Primary Government

Capital asset activity for the year ended September 30, 2019 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Dispositions	Ending Balance
Governmental activities:				
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Land	$ 405,961	$ 25,000		$ 430,961
Construction in progress	1,416,190	934,944	$ (2,242,980)	108,154
Total capital assets not being depreciated	1,822,151	959,944	(2,242,980)	539,115
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Buildings and improvements	11,757,991	2,284,550		14,042,541
Machinery and equipment	11,825,742	390,902		12,216,644
Infrastructure	4,460,882			4,460,882
Total capital assets being depreciated	28,044,615	2,675,452	-	30,720,067
Less, accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings and improvements	(7,385,300)	(311,883)		(7,697,183)
Machinery and equipment	(8,943,307)	(653,120)		(9,596,427)
Infrastructure	(860,718)	(111,523)		(972,241)
Total accumulated depreciation	(17,189,325)	(1,076,526)	-	(18,265,851)
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	10,855,290	1,598,926	-	12,454,216
Governmental activities capital assets, net	$ 12,677,441	$ 2,558,870	$ (2,242,980)	$ 12,993,331

Depreciation expense was charged to functions of the primary government as follows:

Governmental activities:	
General government	$ 256,101
Public safety	492,885
Public works	189,722
Public welfare	116,571
Culture and recreation	11,349
Judicial	9,898
Total depreciation expense - Governmental activities	$ 1,076,526

Discretely Presented Component Units

The Meriwether County Department of Public Health's capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2019 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Dispositions	Ending Balance
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Machinery and equipment	$ 198,182	$ 33,585	$ (104,208)	$ 127,559
Less, accumulated depreciation:				
Machinery and equipment	(164,601)	(24,333)	104,208	(84,726)
Governmental activities capital assets, net	$ 33,581	$ 9,252	$ -	$ 42,833

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

Governmental activities:	
Health	$ 24,333

The Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority's capital asset activity for the year ended September 30, 2019 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Dispositions	Ending Balance
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Land	$6,473,917		$ (60,000)	$ 6,413,917
Total capital assets not being depreciated	6,473,917	$ -	(60,000)	6,413,917
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Furniture and equipment	88,711			88,711
Infrastructure	2,043,829			2,043,829
Total capital assets being depreciated	2,132,540	-	-	2,132,540
Less, accumulated depreciation for:				
Furniture and equipment	(57,245)	(7,827)		(65,072)
Infrastructure	(383,219)	(51,096)		(434,315)
Total accumulated depreciation	(440,464)	(58,923)	-	(499,387)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	1,692,076	(58,923)	-	1,633,153
Governmental activity capital assets, net	$8,165,993	$ (58,923)	$ (60,000)	$ 8,047,070

Depreciation expense was charged to functions as follows:

General and administrative	$ 7,827
Business promotion	51,096
	$ 58,923

The Meriwether County Water and Sewerage Authority's capital asset activity for the year ended September 30, 2019 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Dispositions	Ending Balance
Business-type activities:				
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Water system	$ 4,801,449	$ 1,600,000		$ 6,401,449
Sewer system	1,668,576			1,668,576
Furniture and equipment	111,527			111,527
Total capital assets being depreciated	6,581,552	1,600,000	$ -	8,181,552
Less, accumulated depreciation for:				
Water system	(755,598)	(156,703)		(912,301)
Sewer system	(291,998)	(41,714)		(333,712)
Furniture and equipment	(41,710)	(13,981)		(55,691)
Total accumulated depreciation	(1,089,306)	(212,398)	-	(1,301,704)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	5,492,246	1,387,602	-	6,879,848
Business-type activities capital assets, net	$ 5,492,246	$ 1,387,602	$ -	$ 6,879,848

Depreciation expense was charged to functions as follows:

Business-type activities:	
Water system	$ 170,684
Sewer system	41,714
	$ 212,398

5. SHORT-TERM DEBT

Primary Government

The County had a note with a local bank for the purchase of vehicles for a total of $121,448. This loan matured at December 31, 2018 which was paid in full.

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance
Vehicle note	$ 46,721	$ -	$ (46,721)	$ -

6. LONG-TERM DEBT

A. General Obligation Bonds

Primary Government

The County issued general obligation bonds to provide funds for the acquisition and construction of major capital facilities. General obligation bonds have been issued for governmental activities of Meriwether County, Georgia and are paid from the SPLOST fund. The original amount of the Series 2014 general obligation bonds issued in prior years was $9,000.000. See Note #15 for an explanation of the intergovernmental agreement that is security for these bonds.

The County issued general obligation bonds of $3,500,000 for acquisition, construction, and/or renovation of existing fire stations and acquisition of fire trucks and equipment for use within the Fire District. The County will levy an ad valorem tax on all taxable property within the Fire District subject to taxation in an amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest on the Series 2017 bonds and are paid from the Fire District O & M Fund.

General obligation bonds are direct obligations and pledge the full faith and credit of the government. Direct placement general obligation bonds currently outstanding are as follows:

Purpose	Interest Rates	Amount
Governmental activities:		
Capital outlay projects, Series 2014	2.50%	$ 1,600,000
Capital project Fire District, Series 2017	2.00% - 4.00%	3,130,000
		$ 4,730,000

Annual debt service requirements to maturity for general obligation bonds are as follows:

	Governmental Activities	
	Principal	Interest
Year ending September 30:		
2020	$ 1,790,000	$ 153,200
2021	195,000	107,425
2022	205,000	101,425
2023	210,000	95,200
2024	220,000	87,650
2025-2029	1,240,000	300,825
2030-2032	870,000	53,000
	$ 4,730,000	$ 898,725

B. Revenue Bonds

Discretely Presented Component Units

The Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority has revenue bonds issued to provide funds for road and gas system improvements at the North Meriwether Industrial Park. Repayment of debt will be funded through an intergovernmental agreement with Meriwether County.

The original amount of revenue bonds was $2,375,000. Direct placement revenue bonds outstanding at year end are as follows:

Purpose	Interest Rates	Amounts
Industrial Park improvements	4.24%	$ 780,000

Revenue bond debt service requirements to maturity are as follows:

	Governmental Activities	
	Principal	Interest
Year ending September 30:		
2020	$ -	$ 16,536
2021	185,000	29,150
2022	190,000	21,200
2023	200,000	12,932
2024	205,000	4,346
	$ 780,000	$ 84,164

The Meriwether County Water & Sewerage Authority issued Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2016A & Series 2016B of $9,320,000 and $1,485,000, respectively. The County is contingently liable for this bond issue if the Authority is unable to service the debt.

Direct placement revenue bonds outstanding at year end is as follows:

Purpose	Interest Rates	Amounts
Water & Sewer	Variable, 1.60% to 3.50%	$ 9,860,000

Revenue bond debt service requirements to maturity are as follows:

	Business-Type Activities	
	Principal	Interest
Year ending September 30:		
2020	$ 330,000	$ 361,800
2021	335,000	354,375
2022	345,000	344,125
2023	350,000	337,225
2024	365,000	326,725
2025-2029	2,025,000	1,422,875
2030-2034	2,455,000	985,075
2035-2039	2,995,000	455,375
2040	660,000	23,100
	$ 9,860,000	$ 4,610,675

In prior years, the Authority defeased revenue bonds by placing the proceeds of new bonds and cash the Authority had on hand in an irrevocable trust account to provide for all future debt service payments on the old bonds. Accordingly, the trust account assets and the liability for the defeased bonds are not included in the Authority's financial statements. At September 30, 2019, $11,290,000 of defeased bonds remain outstanding.

C. Capital Leases

Primary Government

The County has entered into a lease agreement as lessee for financing the acquisition of equipment for the governmental activities. This lease is being paid by the general fund. This lease agreement qualifies as a capital lease for accounting purposes and, therefore, has been recorded at present value of future minimum lease payments as of the inception date. The expense resulting from amortization of assets recorded under a capital lease is included in depreciation expense.

The assets acquired through this capital lease are as follows:

	Governmental Type Activities
Asset:	
Machinery and equipment	$ 1,392,507
Less, accumulated depreciation	(711,727)
Total	$ 680,780

The future minimum lease obligations and the net present value of these minimum lease payments as of September 30, 2019, were as follows:

	Governmental Type Activities
Year ending September 30:	
2020	$ 159,199
2021	160,577
2022	161,965
2023	163,366
2024	27,267
Total minimum lease payments	672,374
Less, amount representing interest	(62,662)
Present value of minimum lease payments	$ 609,712

D. Changes in Long-Term Debt

Primary Government

Long-term debt activity for the year ended September 30, 2019 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Governmental activities:					
Direct placement general obligation bonds	$ 6,480,000		$(1,750,000)	$ 4,730,000	$ 1,790,000
Premium	198,903		(14,734)	184,169	
Total bonds payable	6,678,903	$ -	(1,764,734)	4,914,169	1,790,000
Capital leases	735,921		(126,209)	609,712	133,612
Governmental activity, long-term debt	$ 7,414,824	$ -	$(1,890,943)	$ 5,523,881	$ 1,923,612

The County's portion of the $9,000,000 of general obligation bonds to use for SPLOST capital projects is 65%. At September 30, 2019, the County had $1,278,199 in cash not used for SPLOST capital projects and $584,179 in cash not used for Fire District capital projects.

Discretely Presented Component Units

The following is a summary of changes in long-term debt for the Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority for the year ended September 30, 2019:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Revenue bonds	$ 955,000	$ -	$ (175,000)	$ 780,000	$ -

The following is a summary of changes in long-term debt for the Meriwether Water and Sewerage Authority for the year ended September 30, 2019:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Revenue bonds	$10,180,000		$ (320,000)	$ 9,860,000	$ 330,000
Plus amortized premium	604,420		(28,113)	576,307	
Total bonds payable	$10,784,420	$ -	$ (384,113)	$10,436,307	$ 330,000

7. OTHER LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

A. Compensated Absences

Primary Government and Component Units

The County and its component units accrue compensated absences for their employees. The governmental activities of the County, Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority, and the Department of Public Health have compensated absences at September 30, 2019 and June 30, 2019, respectively. The Meriwether County Water and Sewerage Authority did not have any compensated absences at September 30, 2019. Accrued compensated absences from the governmental activities of the County are repaid through the general fund. Compensated absences for the Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority are repaid through the component unit's general fund. The Department of Public Health compensated absences are repaid through the component unit's general fund.

B. Intergovernmental Agreements

Primary Government

Meriwether County entered into an intergovernmental contract dated November 12, 2008 with the Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority obligating the County to service the principal and interest on the Authority's Series 2008 Revenue Bonds. The bond proceeds were used for road improvements and to install gas lines at North Meriwether Industrial Park. The County will fund these bonds through the assignment of one mill of property tax.

Annual debt service requirements to maturity for the intergovernmental agreement are as follows:

	Governmental Activities	
	Principal	Interest
Year ending September 30:		
2020	$ -	$ 16,536
2021	185,000	29,150
2022	190,000	21,200
2023	200,000	12,932
2024	205,000	4,346
	$ 780,000	$ 84,164

The debt payment due October 1, 2019 on the intergovernmental agreement was made in September of 2019. Therefore, there is no principal due until the year ending September 30, 2020.

C. CLOSURE AND POSTCLOSURE CARE COST

State and federal laws and regulations require the County to place a final cover on its landfill site when it stops accepting waste and to perform certain maintenance and monitoring functions at the site for thirty years after closure. Although closure and postclosure care costs will be paid only near or after the date that the landfill stops accepting waste, the County reports a portion of these closure and postclosure care costs as an operating expense in each period based on landfill capacity used as of each balance sheet date. The $2,072,695 reported in the governmental activities liabilities on the government-wide financials as landfill closure and postclosure care liability at September 30, 2019, represents the cumulative amount reported to date based on the use of 100% of the estimated capacity of the landfill. This estimate was revised based on an engineering study done in April 2009. According to EPD guidelines this liability will be frozen at the present amount.

There is no unrecognized estimated closure and postclosure care cost at September 30, 2019. These amounts are based on what it would cost to perform all closure and postclosure care in 2020. Actual costs may be higher due to inflation, changes in technology, or changes in landfill laws and regulations. The County has met certain financial tests which it feels meet the financial assurance requirements for closure and postclosure care.

D. Changes in Other Long-Term Obligations

Primary Government

Other long-term obligations activity for the year ended September 30, 2019 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Governmental activities:					
Compensated absences	$ 272,228	$ 146,740	$ (134,242)	$ 284,726	$ 170,836
Intergovernmental agreements	955,000		(175,000)	780,000	
Landfill postclosure costs	2,072,695			2,072,695	
Governmental type activity, long-term liabilities	$ 3,299,923	$ 146,740	$ (309,242)	$ 3,137,421	$ 170,836

Discretely Presented Component Units

The following is a summary of changes in other long-term obligations for the Meriwether County Department of Public Health for the year ended June 30, 2019:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Governmental activities:					
Compensated absences	$ 58,349	$ 17,135	$ (21,353)	$ 54,131	$ 19,395

The following is a summary of changes in other long-term obligations for the Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority for the year ended September 30, 2019:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Governmental activities:					
Compensated absences	$ 7,647	$ 6,785	$ (4,863)	$ 9,569	$ 9,569

8. INTERFUND RECEIVABLES, PAYABLES AND TRANSFERS

Interfund balances for the year ended September 30, 2019 consisted of the following:

Due to/from other funds:

Payable Fund	Receivable Fund	Amount
Fire District O & M	General Fund	$ 759,308
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Fire District Bond	1,530
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	General Fund	2,983
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	1,841
		$ 765,662

The outstanding balances between funds result from the time lag between the dates that interfund goods and services are provided or reimbursable expenditures occur and when payments between funds are made. All due to/from balances are expected to be repaid within one year.

Interfund transfers for the year ended September 30, 2019, consisted of the following:

	Transfer In		
Transfer Out	Fire District O & M	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Totals
General Fund	$ 4,220	$ 438,317	$ 442,537

Interfund transfers are made for the purpose of General Fund supplemented Fire District O & M Fund and a nonmajor governmental fund for operations.

9. PENSION PLAN AND OTHER RETIREMENT BENEFITS

Primary Government

A. Pension Plan

County employees are covered by the *Meriwether County Employee's Retirement Plan*, a defined contribution and profit-sharing plan for full-time County employees who have attained age 18 and have completed 90 days of service and worked at least 1,000 hours a year. Under the plan, the County contributes nonelective contributions of 4% of employee compensation. For the year ending September 30, 2019, the County contributed 4% of employee's gross pay to the 401a fund for all eligible employees. For Elected Officials and Department Heads, the vested interest in these nonelective contributions in the employee account is 100%. For all other employees, the vested interest is 0% until the employee has completed five years of service, at which time the account becomes 100% vested. In addition to the nonelective contributions made by the County, the employee can elect to contribute from 0% to 100% of their compensation to the plan as an after-tax contribution. Mass Mutual has been selected to administer the plan and act as trustee. Plan provisions and contribution requirements are established or amended by a resolution of the County Commissioners.

The County's contribution to these plans for the year ended September 30, 2019, was approximately $324,703 and employees contributed approximately $6,991. Total payroll for the year ended September 30, 2019, was approximately $6,898,445. Approximately 165 employees participated in the plan for the year ended September 30, 2019.

B. Deferred Compensation

Meriwether County employees may elect to participate in a deferred compensation plan through Mass Mutual, the administrator. Participating employees may elect to defer up to $19,000 of their includible compensation as provided in IRC Section 457. Meriwether County is not required to contribute to the plan and has made no contributions for the current year or prior years. Employees have contributed approximately $260,555 during fiscal year ending September 30, 2019. Approximately 157 employees participated in the plan for the year ended September 30, 2019.

C. Other Retirement Benefits

The County participates in the following cost-sharing, multiple employer defined benefit pension plans with a special funding situation. Each fund issues plan reports which can be obtained from the plan administrators:

Sheriff's Retirement Fund of Georgia
Judges of the Probate Courts Retirement Fund of Georgia
Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund
Superior Court Clerks' Retirement Fund of Georgia
Magistrates Retirement Fund of Georgia

10. TAX ABATEMENTS

Discretely Presented Component Units

The Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority is authorized under Title 36 Chapter 62 of the Official Code of Georgia to issue its revenue bonds to finance "projects" in order to promote and expand industry and trade within the County to reduce unemployment to the greatest extent possible. To encourage industries to locate their projects within the County, the Authority allows for ad valorem tax abatement through a sale-leaseback arrangement. Under this arrangement, the Authority has transferred ownership of the "project" being financed by the revenue bonds, and the bonds are then amortized by the lease payments. Once the bonds have been repaid, ownership is transferred back to the company and the ad valorem taxes are no longer abated.

For the duration of time the taxes are being abated, the company financing their project is required to meet certain goals in order to remain eligible to receive the abatement. The goals the Authority requires the companies to meet are the community jobs goal, and the community investment goal. The number of jobs and amount of investment required by these goals vary between agreements. If these goals are not met, a provision for the recapture of a portion of the value of the incentive being provided to the company is available. Also, the Authority has the right to terminate this agreement without any further liability effective immediately upon giving written notice to the other parties involved.

Tax abatements are based on a savings schedule which is agreed upon by the Authority and the company. Savings schedules vary by agreement but are the same in the concept that the company will pay a percentage of ad valorem tax that would be due if the legal title of the project were vested in the company. These payments are considered to be in lieu of ad valorem taxes.

For the year ended September 30, 2019, the Authority abated ad valorem taxes totaling $2,212,448 under the program previously described. Included in that amount, the following tax abatement agreements that each exceeded 10 percent of the total amount abated were:

Tax Abatement Project	Percentage Abated	Amount of Taxes Abated
Mando America Corporation Project	96.20%	$ 1,938,129
Dongwon Autopart Technology Georgia, LLC Project	59.77%	237,692
		$ 2,175,821

11. LITIGATION

The County is involved in litigation at September 30, 2019. Any lawsuits pending at September 30, 2019 are covered by insurance and should not materially affect the financial statements of Meriwether County, Georgia.

12. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The activities of the General Fund include revenues received from Federal and State governments and expenditures related to Federal and State funded grant programs. These programs are subject to program compliance audits by the grantors or their representatives. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the granting agencies audits cannot be determined at this time, although the County believes it is in compliance with all related program requirements.

During the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, the County entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Greenland, LLC to purchase three tracts of land in the North Meriwether Industrial Park. In exchange for the tracts of land, the County assigned the host fees, which were due from Greenland, LLC for years 2013, 2014, 2018, and 2019 at $700,000 each year. The tracts of land were given to a joint development authority overseeing the building project at the Industrial Park.

During the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, the County entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Greenland, LLC to purchase approximately forty-three acres of land at the North Meriwether Industrial Park. In exchange for the land, the County assigned the host fees which were due from Greenland, LLC for years 2015 and 2016 at $700,000 each year. At closing, the land was transferred to the Meriwether County Industrial Development Authority.

13. RISK MANAGEMENT

The County is exposed to various risks of losses related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; error and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The County participates in the *Georgia Interlocal Risk Management Agency Property and Liability Insurance Fund* and Association County Commissioners of Georgia Group Self Insurance Worker's Compensation Fund (GSIWCF), a public entity risk pool operated by the Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) as a risk management and insurance program. The County pays an annual premium to ACCG for it general insurance and worker's compensation coverage. The above entity risk pool is self-sustaining through member premiums.

As part of the risk pool, the County is obligated to pay all contributions and assessments as prescribed by the pool, to cooperate with the pool's agents and attorneys, to follow loss reduction procedures established by the funds, and to report as promptly as possible, and in accordance with any coverage descriptions issued, all incidents which could result in the funds being required to pay any claim of loss. The County is also to allow the pool's agents and attorneys to represent the County in investigation, settlement discussions and all levels of litigation arising out of any claim made against the County within the scope of loss protection furnished by the funds.

The funds are to defend and protect the members of the pool against liability or loss as prescribed in the member government contract. The funds are to pay all cost taxed against members in any legal proceeding defended by the members, all interest accruing after entry of judgment, and all expenses incurred for investigation, negotiation or defense.

There were no significant reductions of insurance coverage from coverage in the prior year. Management believes that the coverage is adequate to preclude any significant uninsured risk exposure to the County. Settled claims in the past three years have not exceeded the coverages.

14. JOINT VENTURE

Under Georgia law, the County, in conjunction with other cities and counties in the Central Georgia area, is a member of the Three Rivers Regional Commission (RC) and is required to pay annual dues thereto. During its year ended September 30, 2019 the County paid $13,913 in such dues. Membership in an RC is required by the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (OCGA) Section 50-8-34 which provides for the organizational structure of the RC in Georgia. The RC Board membership includes the chief elected official of each county and municipality of the area. OCGA 50-8-39.1 provides that the member governments are liable for any debts or obligations of an RC. Separate financial statements may be obtained from:

Three Rivers Regional Commission
13273 Highway 34
P.O. Box 1600
Franklin, GA 30217

In prior years the County entered into a Section 5311 Public Transportation Service Agreement with Three Rivers Regional Commission (TRRC) for operation of the Three Rivers Regional Transit System. The TRRC manage the day-to-day operations, retains and monitors a third party operator, and manages the financial reporting and statistical analysis. The County paid $3,680 in fees to the TRRC during fiscal year September 30, 2019.

15. INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS

On March 1, 2014, Meriwether County (the "County") entered into a Sales and Use Tax Intergovernmental Agreement with the various municipalities in the County relating to the imposition of a one percent county special purpose local option sales and use tax (SPLOST) for the purpose of financing capital outlay projects. The County issued General Obligation Sales Tax Bonds, Series 2014 for $9,000,000 in March 2014. The cities were advanced their pro rata share of the net bond proceeds. The Bonds are secured first by the proceeds of SPLOST revenue received by the County, then from general funds of the County as well as the municipalities. Each city is responsible for the payment of that portion of the Bonds allocable to its projects, should the SPLOST revenue be inadequate to service the debt. The County's share is 65%.

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
September 30, 2019

	Capital Projects Fund	Special Revenue Funds						
	Landfill SPLOST	Drug Fund	Jail Fund	Sheriff Drug Forfeiture	Law Library	E-911	Hotel/Motel	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Assets								
Cash		$ 32,510	$ 56,977	$ 107,205	$ 11,015	$ 1,228	$ 2,065	$ 211,000
Investments	$ 767,454							767,454
Receivables (net where applicable of allowance for uncollectibles):								
E-911						65,195		65,195
Due from other funds		472				1,369		1,841
Total assets	$ 767,454	$ 32,982	$ 56,977	$ 107,205	$ 11,015	$ 67,792	$ 2,065	$ 1,045,490
Liabilities								
Accounts payable			$ 1,140					$ 1,140
Due to other funds			6,354					6,354
Total liabilities	$ -	$ -	7,494	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	7,494
Fund Balances								
Fund balances restricted for:								
Public safety		32,982	49,483	107,205		67,792		257,462
Judicial					11,015			11,015
Planning and development							2,065	2,065
Capital projects	767,454							767,454
Total fund balances	767,454	32,982	49,483	107,205	11,015	67,792	2,065	1,037,996
Total liabilities and fund balances	$ 767,454	$ 32,982	$ 56,977	$ 107,205	$ 11,015	$ 67,792	$ 2,065	$ 1,045,490

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
Year Ended September 30, 2019

	Capital Projects Fund	Special Revenue Funds						
	Landfill SPLOST	Drug Fund	Jail Fund	Sheriff Drug Forfeiture	Law Library	E-911	Hotel/ Motel	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Revenues:								
Taxes:								
Hotel/motel							$ 4,653	4,653
Charges for services						$ 393,060		393,060
Fines, forfeitures, and court fees		$ 27,172	$ 43,933	$ 67,153	$ 3,486			141,744
Miscellaneous				7,654				7,654
Investment earnings	$ 19,623	55		26		133		19,837
Total revenues	19,623	27,227	43,933	74,833	3,486	393,193	4,653	566,948
Expenditures:								
Current:								
Public safety		24,007	37,316	46,470		878,318		986,111
Planning and development							4,500	4,500
Judicial					3,019			3,019
Capital outlay	186,525		7,966	60,060				254,551
Total expenditures	186,525	24,007	45,282	106,530	3,019	878,318	4,500	1,248,181
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(166,902)	3,220	(1,349)	(31,697)	467	(485,125)	153	(681,233)
Other financing sources (uses):								
Transfers in						438,317		438,317
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	-	-	-	-	438,317	-	438,317
Net change in fund balances	(166,902)	3,220	(1,349)	(31,697)	467	(46,808)	153	(242,916)
Fund balances, beginning of year	934,356	29,762	50,832	138,902	10,548	114,600	1,912	1,280,912
Fund balances, end of year	$ 767,454	$ 32,982	$ 49,483	$ 107,205	$ 11,015	$ 67,792	$ 2,065	$ 1,037,996

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
DRUG FUND
Year Ended September 30, 2019

	Original and Final Budget	Actual Amount	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues:			
Fines, forfeitures, and court fees	$ 30,000	$ 27,172	$ (2,828)
Investment earnings		55	55
Total revenues	30,000	27,227	(2,773)
Expenditures:			
Current:			
Sheriff	30,000	24,007	5,993
Total expenditures	30,000	24,007	5,993
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	-	3,220	3,220
Net change in fund balances	-	3,220	3,220
Fund balance at beginning of year	29,762	29,762	-
Fund balance at end of year	$ 29,762	$ 32,982	$ 3,220

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
JAIL FUND
Year Ended September 30, 2019

	Original and Final Budget	Actual Amount	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues:			
Fines, forfeitures, and court fees	$ 50,000	$ 43,933	$ (6,067)
Total revenues	50,000	43,933	(6,067)
Expenditures:			
Current:			
Jail	42,000	37,316	4,684
Capital outlay	8,000	7,966	34
Total expenditures	50,000	45,282	4,718
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	-	(1,349)	(1,349)
Net change in fund balances	-	(1,349)	(1,349)
Fund balance at beginning of year	50,832	50,832	-
Fund balance at end of year	$ 50,832	$ 49,483	$ (1,349)

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
SHERIFF DRUG FORFEITURE
Year Ended September 30, 2019

	Original and Final Budget	Actual Amount	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues:			
Fines, forfeitures, and court fees	$ 95,000	$ 67,153	$ (27,847)
Miscellaneous	8,000	7,654	(346)
Investment earnings	5,000	26	(4,974)
Total revenues	108,000	74,833	(33,167)
Expenditures:			
Current:			
Sheriff	47,000	46,470	530
Capital outlay	61,000	60,060	940
Total expenditures	108,000	106,530	1,470
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	-	(31,697)	(31,697)
Net change in fund balances	-	(31,697)	(31,697)
Fund balance at beginning of year	138,902	138,902	-
Fund balance at end of year	$ 138,902	$ 107,205	$ (31,697)

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
LAW LIBRARY
Year Ended September 30, 2019

	Original and Final Budget	Actual Amount	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues:			
Fines, forfeitures, and court fees	$ 4,000	$ 3,486	$ (514)
Total revenues	4,000	3,486	(514)
Expenditures:			
Current:			
Judicial:			
Court services	4,000	3,019	981
Total expenditures	4,000	3,019	981
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	-	467	467
Net change in fund balances	-	467	467
Fund balance at beginning of year	10,548	10,548	-
Fund balance at end of year	$ 10,548	$ 11,015	$ 467

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
E-911
Year Ended September 30, 2019

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual Amount	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues:				
Charges for services	$ 300,000	$ 300,000	$ 393,060	$ 93,060
Investment earnings			133	133
Total revenues	300,000	300,000	393,193	93,193
Expenditures:				
Current:				
Public safety:				
E-911	923,133	939,362	878,318	61,044
Total expenditures	923,133	939,362	878,318	61,044
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(623,133)	(639,362)	(485,125)	154,237
Other financing sources (uses):				
Transfers in	623,133	639,362	438,317	(201,045)
Total other financing sources (uses)	623,133	639,362	438,317	(201,045)
Net change in fund balance	-	-	(46,808)	(46,808)
Fund balance at the beginning of year	114,600	114,600	114,600	-
Fund balance at end of year	$ 114,600	$ 114,600	$ 67,792	$ (46,808)

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
HOTEL/MOTEL
Year Ended September 30, 2019

	Original and Final Budget	Actual Amount	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues:			
Taxes:			
Hotel/motel	$ 5,000	$ 4,653	$ (347)
Total revenues	5,000	4,653	(347)
Expenditures:			
Current:			
Tourism and promotions	5,000	4,500	500
Total expenditures	5,000	4,500	500
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	-	153	153
Net change in fund balances	-	153	153
Fund balance at beginning of year	1,912	1,912	-
Fund balance at end of year	$ 1,912	$ 2,065	$ 153

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
September 30, 2019

	Agency Fund					
	Tax Commissioner	Superior Court	Probate Court	Magistrate Court	Sheriff	Total
Assets						
Cash	$ 444,693	$ 55,774	$ 314	$ 12,085	$ 148,545	$ 661,411
Taxes receivable	27,948					27,948
Total assets	$ 472,641	$ 55,774	$ 314	$ 12,085	$ 148,545	$ 689,359
Liabilities						
Due to others	$ 472,641	$ 55,774	$ 314	$ 12,085	$ 148,545	$ 689,359
Total liabilities	$ 472,641	$ 55,774	$ 314	$ 12,085	$ 148,545	$ 689,359

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILTIES
Year Ended September 30, 2019

	Balance October 1, 2018	Additions	Deductions	Balance September 30, 2019
Tax Commissioner:				
Assets				
Cash	$ 405,858	$ 23,169,784	$ 23,130,949	$ 444,693
Taxes receivable	63,462	27,948	63,462	27,948
	$ 469,320	$ 23,197,732	$ 23,194,411	$ 472,641
Liabilities				
Due to others	$ 469,320	$ 23,197,732	$ 23,194,411	$ 472,641
Clerk of Superior Court:				
Assets				
Cash	$ 95,752	$ 654,189	$ 694,167	$ 55,774
Liabilities				
Due to others	$ 95,752	$ 654,189	$ 694,167	$ 55,774
Probate Court:				
Assets				
Cash	$ 10,152	$ 500,276	$ 510,114	$ 314
Liabilities				
Due to others	$ 10,152	$ 500,276	$ 510,114	$ 314
Magistrate Court:				
Assets				
Cash	$ 11,992	$ 172,055	$ 171,962	$ 12,085
Liabilities				
Due to others	$ 11,992	$ 172,055	$ 171,962	$ 12,085
Sheriff:				
Assets				
Cash	$ 91,715	$ 380,829	$ 323,999	$ 148,545
Liabilities				
Due to others	$ 91,715	$ 380,829	$ 323,999	$ 148,545

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX
September 30, 2019

Project	Estimated Percentage of Completion	Original Estimated Project Amount	Revised Current Estimated Project Amount	Amount Expended Prior Years	Amount Expended Current Year
Resolution #082592:					
Construction and maintenance of sanitary landfill	100%	$ 6,000,000	$ 5,616,257	$ 5,616,257	
Airport project	86.75%		215,000		$ 186,525
Resolution #110513:					
Building renovation	149.92%	462,774	462,774	693,782	
Construction of ambulance station	37.69%	462,774	462,774	174,430	
Roads	81.62%	3,321,630	3,321,630	1,851,567	859,657
Public safety equipment	358.09%	231,387	231,387	828,566	
Public works equipment	61.07%	462,774	462,774	282,620	
Information technology and communications equipment	53.04%	1,307,436	1,307,436	693,469	
GIS technology	73.81%	231,387	231,387	170,793	
Recreation	8.56%	149,838	149,838	12,831	
City of Greenville	87%	414,222	414,222	358,171	
City of Gay	87%	41,922	41,922	36,403	
City of Lone Oak	87%	43,860	43,860	37,637	
City of Luthersville	87%	413,202	413,202	357,245	
City of Manchester	87%	2,000,730	2,000,730	1,729,152	
City of Warm Springs	87%	201,042	201,042	173,686	
City of Woodbury	87%	455,022	455,022	392,723	
Debt service				6,761,415	1,644,125
					$ 2,690,307

AJK

AJK, LLC
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

To the Board of Commissioners
Meriwether County, Georgia
Greenville, Georgia 30222

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Meriwether County, Georgia, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Meriwether County, Georgia's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated April 15, 2020. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of Meriwether County Department of Public Health, as described in our report on Meriwether County, Georgia's financial statements. This report does not include the results of the other auditors' testing of internal control over financial reporting or compliance and other matters that are reported on separately by those auditors.

INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Meriwether County, Georgia's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Meriwether County, Georgia's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Meriwether County, Georgia's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings and responses that we consider to be significant deficiencies, as items 19-1 through 19-6.

COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS

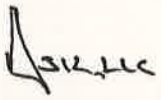
As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Meriwether County, Georgia's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA'S RESPONSE TO FINDINGS

Meriwether County, Georgia's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings and responses. Meriwether County, Georgia's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Manchester, Georgia
April 15, 2020

SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

19-1 Segregation of Duties

Condition and Criteria:	Due to the small size of the County's staff and constitutional officers' staff, controls are not practical to provide adequate segregation of duties in the cash receipts and cash disbursements functions. Management should implement other internal controls in areas where segregation of duties are not practical.
Effect:	Failure to implement offsetting controls in the cash receipts and disbursements functions could result in unauthorized or fraudulent transactions.
Recommendation:	We recommend the County implement other internal controls in areas where segregation of duties is not practical
Response:	We concur. We will continue requiring dual signatures on all checks. We will implement off setting controls when practical and cost effective.

19-2 Controls Over Financial Statement Preparation

Condition and Criteria:	County personnel do not currently possess the skills necessary to prepare the financial statements and related footnote disclosure in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This could result in the omission of a material financial statement element or disclosure that might not be detected by management.
Effect:	The deficiency identified above could result in a material misstatement to the County's financial statements that would not be prevented or detected on a timely basis.
Recommendation:	The County should consider additional training that would provide accounting personnel with the skills to detect and correct misstatements in the financial statements.
Response:	We concur. We will evaluate the cost effectiveness of implementing the control and act accordingly.

19-3 Balancing Procedures and Timely Deposits

Condition and Criteria:	We were made aware during our audit that two former employees in the Tax Commissioner's office were in collusion to make adjustments to TAVT records to cover a shortage in the cashier's drawer. We noted that some of the deposits made to the bank were not traceable to the daily cashier reports which included incorrect dates and amounts did not agree. Also, we noted deposits were not made in a timely manner.
Effect:	Failure to ensure all deposits are reconciled with daily reports and deposited in a timely manner can lead to misappropriation of assets.
Recommendation:	The County employees should ensure all balancing procedures are followed and deposits are taken to the bank in a timely manner.
Response:	We concur. An employee has been assigned the responsibility to prepare the deposit, count the cashier's drawers at the end of the day, and reconcile the total to the daily reports. Deposit slips are dated for that day's work and are taken to the bank the next business day.

19-4 Malfunction of Fueling Station Card Reader

Condition and Criteria:	During our audit we noted the allocation of fuel used by departments from the fueling station was not performed accurately. The card reader was not in operation for several months, which caused no record keeping of usage.
Effect:	Failure to maintain controls at the fueling stations can cause misstatement of fuel expense to departments and misappropriation of assets.
Recommendation:	We recommend controls be put into place when the card reader is not in operation to ensure usage is monitored and recorded in order to expense to the appropriate department.
Response:	The County has now transitioned to a WEX card fuel system which will allow the County to purchase fuel at local fuel outlets. The fueling station will be eliminated once the tank is empty.

19-5 Documentation for FEMA Grant

Condition and Criteria:	During our audit, we were unable to examine documentation for FEMA grant funds received for in-kind labor, equipment and materials for storm damage to roads in prior years.
Effect:	Failure to maintain adequate support for grant funds could result in the County not being in compliance with grant requirements.
Recommendation:	All request for grant draw downs should have all invoices and documentation maintained with the drawdown request.
Response:	We concur.

19-6 Untimely Request for Grant Funds

Condition and Criteria:	During our audit we noted the draw down requested for the SAFR grant had not been prepared in a timely manner.
Effect:	Failure to request draw downs in a timely manner results in misstatement of financial statements and a possible non-compliance with grant requirements.
Recommendation:	County management should ensure all grant draw downs are requested as soon as the expenses have occurred.
Response:	We concur. As of March 4, 2020, County personnel had filed grant draw down request for wages through September 30, 2019.